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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

SUBJECT Municipal Government of Harbin

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1. The municipal government of Harbin is staffed entirely by local residents and does not include any Soviet citizens, either local or from the USSR, with a few exceptions noted below. No Soviet advisers are overtly assigned to any office within the government. Although the mayor, JAO Pin (姚彬),* is a frequent visitor at the Soviet Consulate General and is rumored to receive over-all policy direction from that office, no evidences of his doing so, such as written directives or sudden changes of front resulting from obvious Soviet interference, have been noticed.
2. The principal control agency of the city is the Department of Public Safety, which occupies a four-story building at the corner of Kitaiskaya and Shroznaya Ulitsa. It maintains in each district of Harbin a section office, controlling several police boxes or posts. District sections are organized along the same lines as the city department but on a smaller scale. Included in the Public Safety Department are the following sections:
 - a. Police: Traffic police are stationed at principal intersections from 0800 until dusk; after dark, police patrols of six to eight men move through the city. Police intervene only if public order is disturbed and do not generally stop citizens for routine checks. There is no police curfew, although most public entertainment closes early and the city is quiet after 2100. The police wear black uniforms.
 - b. Foreign Section: This is responsible for all police and security matters pertaining to foreign residents. It includes a passport section and a criminal affairs section.
 - c. Fire Brigades: These brigades, all composed of Chinese, are directly subordinate to the police.
 - d. Military Komendaturas: These came under the Department of Public Safety after the reduction of military forces in the city in 1948; before that they were controlled by the Sungchiang Military District, which still has its headquarters in the building of the former Japanese consulate in Harbin. There are sixteen military komendatura districts in the city.

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including for example the first in Novy Gorod in the former British consulate, the second in the Pristan area, and the third in Ma Chia Kou (馬家溝). These offices are responsible for police control of military personnel in the town and have police power over civilians attached to the military; they also handle air-raid warnings and anti-aircraft defenses. Each komendatura has approximately three hundred troops, in green uniforms, who patrol the city at night, often with city police.

3. The Taxation Department sets tax scales for firms by groups, such as dry goods stores, pharmacies, ready-made clothing, entertainment enterprises, restaurants, and others. At the beginning of each year, all firms must purchase from the Taxation Department special account books in which daily business entries must be made; the books are frequently inspected by taxation officers and each inspection noted by a stamp. Each store or firm is assigned a registration number and must appoint one individual responsible for all transactions and entries in the special account book. All goods must be plainly labeled according to government specifications and the price clearly displayed, and a receipt bearing the firm's registration number must be issued for every purchase. In spite of this involved accounting procedure, the Taxation Department generally taxes private firms up to twenty-five percent of their turnover instead of the normal five to six percent required by law. Taxes are paid to the T'ung Pei (東北) Bank twice a year.
4. Foreign residents engaged in business are controlled by the Taxation Department through the Trade and Industry Section of the Soviet Citizens' Association, which is required to collect from each private firm the following information:
 - a. An inventory of goods on hand as of 1 January each year.
 - b. A monthly report on turnover, with descriptions of goods sold, gross sales, expenditures, and profits.
 - c. A semi-annual report similar to the monthly report; on the basis of this statement, tax rates for the firm are set.
5. The Department of Public Health maintains two public hospitals, one of which operates an out-patient clinic. These facilities are utilized almost entirely by the Chinese population; foreign residents prefer to go to the Railway Hospital.** No epidemics have occurred since 1941. Drugs are in adequate supply; they are imported from the USSR and distributed through the Red Cross and government wholesale outlets. In addition to the city hospitals, there are a Red Cross hospital, a Jewish hospital, and two small private hospitals, the Kazembek and the Monastyrskaya.
6. The Department of Education, in the main municipal building, is responsible for supervision of all city primary and secondary schools. It is headed by a Chinese. A special section within the department, the People's Education Section (Otdel Narodnogo Obrazovaniya), is concerned exclusively with operation of schools for Soviet citizens in Harbin and other portions of the Northeast, particularly areas along the Chinese

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Changchun Railway. Personnel of the section include Pavel Petrovich Momot,*** a Soviet citizen long resident in Harbin, who formerly taught mathematics and is now chief of the section; Giorgi Ivanovich Lagutin, a former chemistry teacher, now chief inspector; and Matrosov, fnu, an inspector of schools in outlying railway stations.

7. Soviet institutions include four middle schools which correspond in program to the Soviet ten-year school (desyatiletka), and the Aleksandr Nevski Lycee, which accepts students of the poorer classes from Harbin and out of town. The entire educational program is based on that prescribed by the Ministry of Education of the RSFSR, except that the study of Marxism-Leninism and the history of the Communist Party is not obligatory; students are, however, encouraged to attend classes in those subjects and many do. All textbooks are imported from the USSR and examination papers are received from the USSR and distributed through the Soviet consulate general. Graduation certificates state that the student fulfilled the requirements of the Ministry of Education of the RSFSR. Middle school personnel include the following:
 - a. First Middle School: director, Fedor Kuzmich Mukashev; inspector, Vasily Vasil'yevich Popov; one teacher, Vsevolod Pavlovich Luzin.
 - b. Second Middle School: director, Kvyatkovsky, fnu.
 - c. Third Middle School: director, Ivan Ivanovich Kipriyanov; inspector, Abrosimova, fnu.
 - d. Fourth Middle School: director, Avgusta Petrovna Dmitriyeva; this was formerly the school of the Soviet Citizens' Association.
8. There are only two institutions of higher learning in Harbin ****: the Harbin Polytechnic Institute, operated by the Chinese Changchun Railway, and the Medical Tekhnikum of the Red Cross Association. This latter is co-educational and has about three hundred students aged eighteen through thirty. It is directed by Dr. Fainitski, fnu.***
9. The Transportation Department of Harbin operates six street car routes and five bus routes. Street cars are of Japanese manufacture; they are painted green and carry the route number on the front. Cars operate from 0600 to 2230, and tickets may be purchased at regular stops or on the car. Typical fares are NEPC 2,000 from Pristan to the main railway station, and NEPC 3,000 from Pristan to Ma Chia Kou. Soldiers in uniform are not allowed to ride free but may pay a reduced rate. The buses, which are also Japanese made, are blue and carry their route numbers on the body. They operate from 0700 to 2200; tickets are purchased on the bus. Fares are approximately NEPC 2,500 from Pristan to Novy Gorod and NEPC 3,500 from Pristan to Ma Chia Kou. Private taxis are also operated.
10. The Postal Department includes post offices, telephones, and telegraph. There are a central post office and several branches in various city districts. Letters for foreign countries are accepted without question, but rates are high, as much as NEPC 10,000 for a letter to Japan, for example. Harbin telephones are mostly official; there are few private telephones, it is difficult to obtain repairs for them, and installation of new telephones for private use is almost impossible. Telephone users pay a fixed charge for

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installation, and a separate fee for each individual call. There are no public telephone booths, but some stores will permit the use of their telephones if the fee is paid in advance. Long distance telephone service is available to all points in the northeast; calls may be made also to Tientsin and thence to other countries. The Telegraph Office accepts messages to any part of the world. Rates are quoted in relation to the current value of the Swiss franc; in January 1950 a twenty-word cable to Japan cost NEPC 2,225,000.*****

11. The city Water Works operates one water purifying station several miles above the city on the Sungari River. Water supplies still come from wells in some parts of the city. Some streets are provided with natural gas from the one plant.
12. The Electricity Department obtains power for domestic use in Harbin from the Kirin hydro-electric plant; this gives 110-volt AC. From 1946, when Nationalist troops occupied Kirin, until the Chinese Communist return in 1948, the sole source of power supply in Harbin was the local thermo-electric plant, which furnished power only to military installations, street cars and government offices; clubs, theatres, and Soviet installations used diesel generators for individual power requirements. The plant now supplies 220-volt AC for industrial current.
13. There are few street lights in the city; only main intersections are lighted. Since December 1949 and January 1950 when the shortage of electric light bulbs was somewhat eased, the Department of Public Safety has required citizens to install electric lights in front entrances of houses and on store fronts. The Electricity Department is entirely staffed with Chinese, except for one local Soviet citizen who is employed as a clerk to deal with Russian-speaking foreign residents.

25X1 * [redacted] JAO Pin has been previously reported as mayor of Harbin;

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25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. P. P. Momot (also spelled Momott) was previously identified as Soviet chief of the Public Education Department of Harbin, where he arrived in early summer 1946 from the USSR. [redacted] 25X1

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25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 [redacted] e China People's Yearbook for 1950, however, also lists an Agricultural Institute in Harbin, [redacted] 25X1

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25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. In December 1949 the cost of a cable to the United States was approximately US \$2.50 per word.

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